

CLIMATE+HEALTH

Climate and Health Adaptation Plan for the Public Health Council of the Upper Valley

Prepared by:
Public Health Council of the Upper Valley
With Assistance From:
Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission



Planning Partners

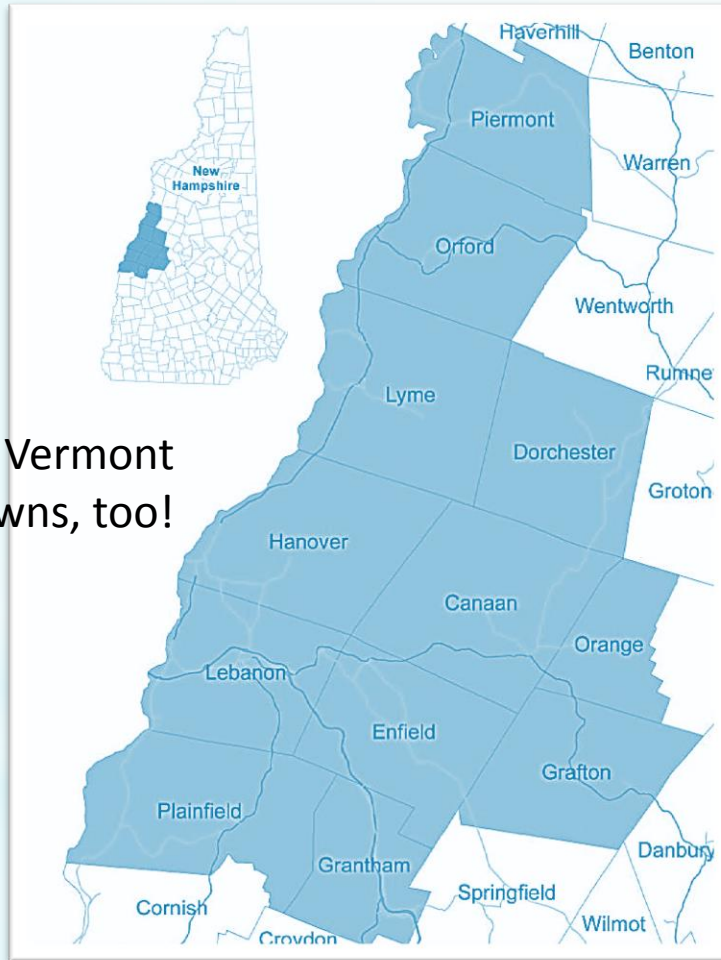
- Public Health Council of the Upper Valley
- Dartmouth-Hitchcock Community Health
- Upper Valley Adaptation Workgroup
- Upper Valley Emergency Preparedness Coordinator
- Upper Valley Housing Coalition
- Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission
- Vital Communities

What is the Public Health Council?

- Community leaders and representatives from a diverse group of community sectors working together to create a more healthy, safe, supportive, and vital Upper Valley.
 - Advancing collaboration
 - Delivering core public health services
 - Establishing public health priorities, and
 - Mobilizing resources to achieve measurable outcomes.



What is the Public Health Council?



And Vermont
Towns, too!

■ Vision:

- Working together, our Upper Valley community will be healthy, safe, supportive, and vital.

■ Mission:

- To improve the health of Upper Valley residents through shared public health initiatives and services within a network of community stakeholders.

PLAN: We looked at...



Geography

- Population Centers
- Topography
- Infrastructure

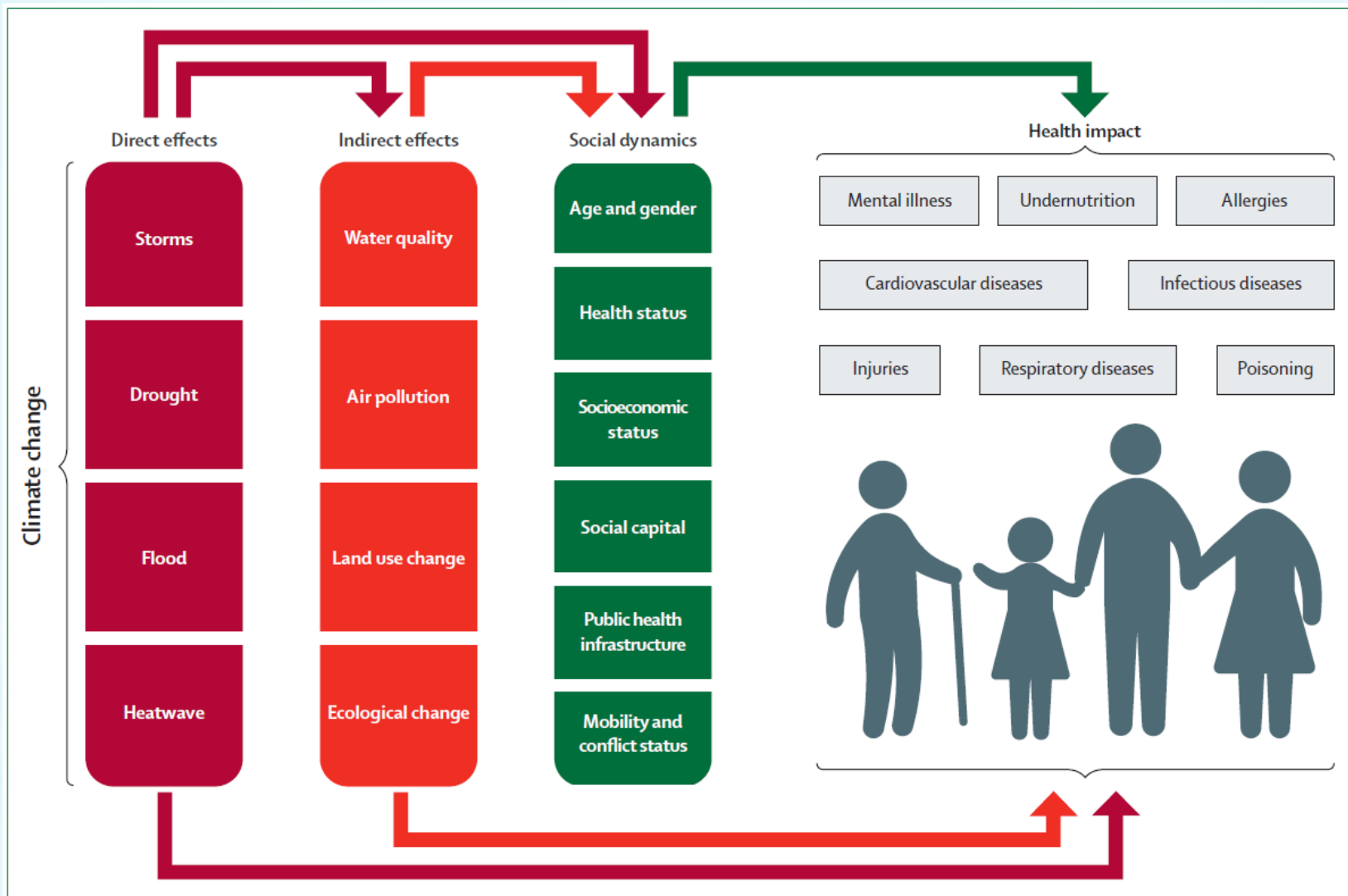
Demographics

- Population
- Age Cohorts
- Projections

Existing Work

- Regional & Municipal Emergency Response Plans
- Hazard Vulnerability Assessments

PLANNING: What are the potential health risks?



Direct and Indirect Impacts of Climate Change on Health and Wellbeing; Source: [Health and Climate Change](#), 2015, The Lancet Commissions

Health Vulnerability Prioritization Summary

High Priority Exposure:

- Increasing occurrence of extreme heat events (increase in days over 90°F)
- Increased extreme precipitation and occurrence of extreme weather events
- Threats to mental health

Health Impact:

- Heat stroke
- Complicates chronic disease
- Injury
- Drowning
- Carbon Monoxide
- Mold
- Stress, Depression

Health Vulnerability Prioritization Summary

Medium Priority Exposure:

- Longer Growing Seasons
 - Vector-borne disease
 - Allergens
- Water and food security, food and water-borne diseases

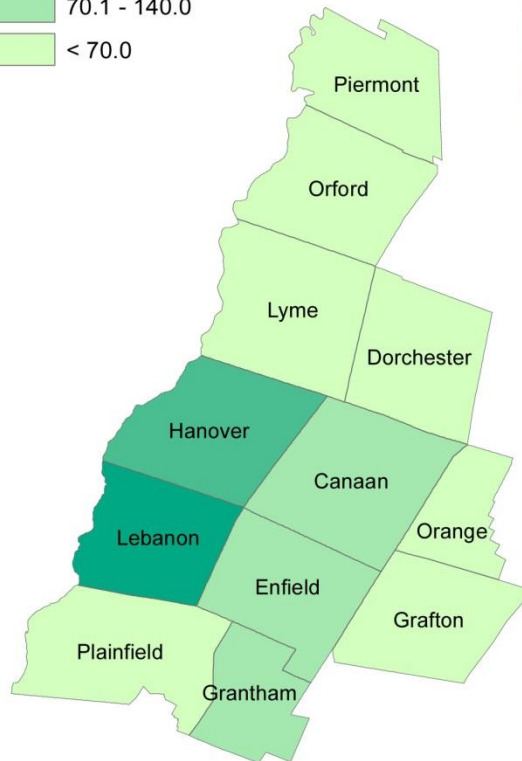
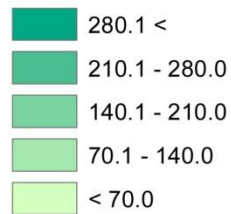
Health Impact:

- Lyme & West Nile
- Aggravates respiratory illness
- Crop contamination
- Water Supply



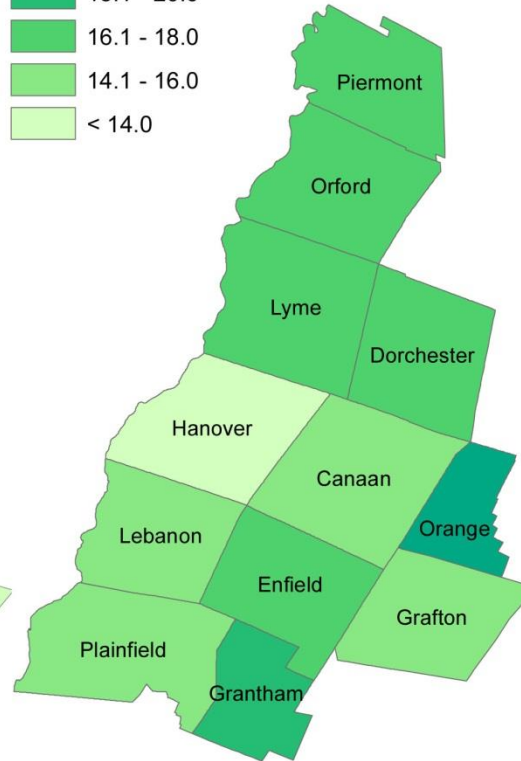
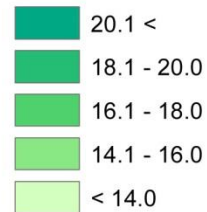
REGIONAL CHARACTERISTICS

Population Density



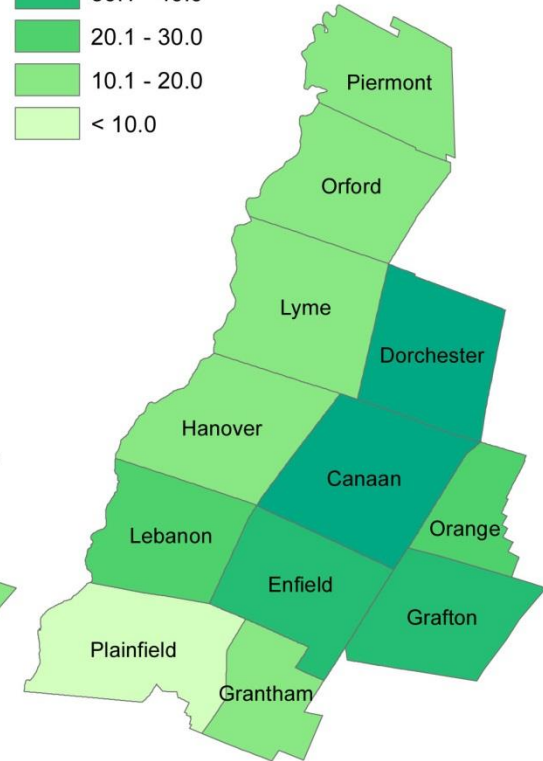
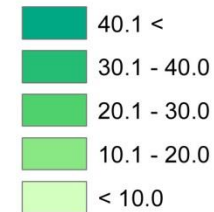
Data Source: 2013 Population Density data from the Economic & Labor Market Information Bureau, NH Employment Security, December 2014.

Senior Population as a Percentage of Total Population (65+ Years Old)



Data Source: 2013 Population Density data from the Economic & Labor Market Information Bureau, NH Employment Security, December

Percentage of Senior Population with Income Under 200% Poverty Level



Data Source: U.S. Census Poverty Aggregation Data 2014.
Map created by UVLSRPC September 2015.

PLANNING: What is the significant demographic trend?



| | PHC Total Pop | Pop 65 yrs + | Percent 65 yrs + |
|-------------|---------------|--------------|------------------|
| 2010 Census | 44,020 | 7,568 | 17% |
| 2015 Est. | 44,015 | 9,098 | 21% |
| 2025 Est. | 45,463 | 13,354 | 29% |
| 2040 Est. | 46,676 | 16,727 | 36% |

Population estimates for study area based
on 2013 NHOEP Population Projections

Reducing the Impact of Severe Heat: Goals



- Help older adults remain healthy when we experience very hot days in the summer
- Build partnerships with organizations that serve older adults so they can help us get information and resources out



- Figure out the strategies that are going to work best in our communities
- Strengthen our capacity to address this and other health impacts of climate change.

Reducing the Impact of Severe Heat

Effective Interventions

- Outreach and Education
 - Heat Alert Systems
- Access to Cooling Shelters

Upper Valley Approach

■ Phase One (until 9/2016)

■ Outreach and Education

- Community Forum
- Work with Partners in Contact with Older Adults
 - What strategies might work?
 - What are the barriers?
 - Pilot Project

■ Phase Two (after 9/2016)

■ Heat Alert Systems

- Determine thresholds & strategies

■ Access to Cooling Shelters

- Build off current work of Emergency Planning